MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 FEBRUARY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iran claimed further successes in a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio 13 February, asserting that Iranian forces continued to advance along the Al-Faw-Basra highway and dealt "mortal blows" to an Iraqi Presidential Guards Division which had attempted a counterattack. Iranian forces have reportedly "liberated" over 700 sq km of Iraqi territory in their current offensive. The communique also accused Iraq of resorting to chemical weapons, and a related IRNA report spoke of 1,500 Iranian soldiers injured by Iraqi gas attacks. The Iraqi information minister, however, denied that Iraq has used chemical weapons, asserting that Iran's claims in this regard are an attempt to cover the losses and retreat of Iranian forces, according to INA. In the same report, he also denied the fall of Umm Qasr. An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio likewise stressed that Iraq's III and VII Army Corps were continuing to foil the Iranian offensive, asserting that the VII Army is besieging Iranian troops and has forced them back several kilometers. Meanwhile, the Iraqi Air Force carried out hundreds of raids on ground targets and also attacked a "large enemy maritime target" and an Iranian "monitoring station," the communique added. While the communique reported that another Iranian F-4 was downed 13 February, IRNA subsequently claimed that Iran has downed 21 Iraqi warplanes and 2 helicopters in the course of the latest offensive.

As for the results of Iran's warning to Kuwait over Bubiyan Island, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi stated in remarks broadcast by Tehran radio that Iran is "happy" that Kuwaiti officials have stated that Bubiyan and other Kuwaiti resources "will not be placed at the disposal of anyone." Nevertheless, the Kuwaiti foreign minister was one of seven Arab ministers attending an Arab League Followup Committee meeting in Baghdad called to discuss the Iranian "aggression," according to Baghdad radio.

In contrast, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i discussed the military situation in telephone conversations with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, according to Tehran radio.

Iran

Documents allegedly showing that Iran is training guerrilla squads for sabotage missions in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are CIA forgeries, an Iranian deputy minister said in a news conference reported by IRNA. The official added that Iran categorically denies forming such guerrilla teams.

PDRY

There are no Soviet military bases in the PDRY, Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas claimed in a Kuwaiti press interview reported by KUNA. In the *AL-SIYASA* interview, Al-'Attas invited journalists to visit Soqotra Island and the rest of the country to verify his statement. Al-'Attas also said that while the PDRY desires closer ties with the YAR, GCC states, and other Arab countries, it is indifferent toward the United States' nonrecognition of the new leadership. In a separate statement reported by WAKH, Al-'Attas told the UAE's *AL-KHALIJ* that there has been no mediation between the new government and former leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

Libya-Chad

Ndjamena radio denied that Koro Toro has fallen to "Libyan forces," maintaining that the northern Chadian town was not attacked. The Chadian Government has the situation "under control" in Kouba Olanga but "violent fighting" continues in Oum Chalouba, Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou told the radio. According to Lassou, enemy losses totalled 216 killed and 220 captured while government losses amounted to 4 killed and 20 wounded.

Israel

Relations With Egypt — Reporting on the outcome of the 12 February Israeli-Egyptian talks in Herzliyya, Jerusalem radio said the two sides have decided that the "arbitral compromis" will not include issues that are not directly connected to the Tabah dispute. IDF radio reported earlier that the two sides had reached agreement on various practical arrangements for the arbitration. In a related development, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir received the head of the Egyptian delegation, who stressed Egypt's desire to improve relations in all fields and reaffirmed Egypt's "positive" view of the Israeli Inner Cabinet decision to submit the Tabah issue to arbitration, according to Jerusalem radio.

Relations With Ivory Coast — Foreign Minister Shamir congratulated the president and Government of the Ivory Coast for their decision to reestablish relations with Israel. The renewal of relations was announced earlier by Jerusalem and Abidjan radios.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'arafat invited Executive Committee members to an "urgent" meeting to study recent U.S. statements on the Middle East peace process, a Palestinian source told KUNA. Meanwhile, *DIE WELT* cited a GDR Government source as saying that Fatah Revolutionary Council leader Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal, is currently being treated for liver cancer in a state hospital in East Berlin, according to AFP.

Saudi Arabia-Egypt

During a visit to Cairo, Saudi Prince Turki told the Egyptian magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR* that Egyptian-Saudi relations are a "strategic necessity" and that President Husni Mubarak and King Fahd should meet in the near future, MENA reported. Prince Turki, a brother of King Fahd, disclosed that he was received by President Mubarak during his "private" visit, noting that the talks covered the Arab situation and Egyptian-Saudi relations.

Lebanon

The arrests and accusations concerning "terrorist cells" in East Berlin have no justification, former Lebanese Forces leader Elie Hubayqah said in a statement broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio.

Algeria

President Chadli Bendjedid appointed four new ministers and abolished three vice ministerial posts, APS reported.

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Karmal Congratulates Castro on Reelection
LD122022 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Babrak Karmal, PDPA Central Committee general secretary and DRA Revolutionary Council president, has sent the following congratulatory telegram to F. Castro on the occasion of his reelection as first secretary of Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee:

Comrade F. Castro, secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Cuba; February 1986; Kabul:

Dear comrade: Allow me to express, on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee and myself, the best comradely congratulations on the occasion of your reelection as the first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee.

Your reelection to this sensitive duty full of responsibility manifests the profound confidence that the Communist Party and the heroic people of Cuba have in you as a well-known personality of the international communist and labor movements.

The PDPA and our free-born people attach great value to the existing fraternal and comradely relations between the parties, governments, and people of the two countries in which you, dear Comrade F. Castro, have played and are playing a worthy and important role for their further growth.

Taking the opportunity once again, I sincerely congratulate you on your reelection and wish further victories for the fraternal people of Cuba under the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba, headed by you, dear comrade, in the implementation of the resolutions of the historic third Congress of Communist Party of Cuba for the ever further blossoming of the Republic of Cuba. With warm comradely greetings. Babrak Karmal, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

Dost Meets Visiting CSSR Deputy Foreign Minister
LD120756 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0444 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 11, BAKHTAR — Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs of the DRA met with Stanislav Svoboda, deputy foreign minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic here today.

Major international issues of mutual concern to both the sides, the situation in the region and further development of friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries were discussed in a friendly atmosphere.

According to another report, official talks also took place between the Czechoslovak delegation and the delegation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DRA.

Commentary Views Work of CIA Mercenaries
LD130959 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Kabul, February 12, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

Western mass media ever-increasingly spread news about the active participation of professional mercenaries and cutthroats in the imperialistic undeclared war against the DRA.

The confessions of one of these professional war mercenaries, David Shannon, have been published in the well-known American magazine of [name indistinct], which are indicative of the direct interferences of the U.S. imperialism in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and its direct participation in the undeclared war against the DRA.

Shannon is one of the experienced professional cutthroats, who was previously employed by the CIA for killing and bloodshed in Angola and Mozambique.

He [words indistinct] experience in crimes. The criminal cutthroat has admitted that he illegally entered three times into the territory of the DRA along with the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands. His latest entry into Afghanistan along with other three criminals was in June last year. The inspirers of these mercenaries (?have) praised them with pride in their press.

These war mercenaries are employed by the CIA and the Washington administration (?and) they embark upon most ignominious crimes throughout the world for the sake of money at the behest of the US imperialism.

The Western (?press) has already admitted that the Washington administration makes use of these professional cutthroats in the imperialistic undeclared war against the DRA.

The first (?band) of war mercenaries of the Washington administration was organised in Pakistan in 1980 aimed at carrying on the undeclared war against Afghanistan, and ever since that time, its scope has unprecedentedly been expanded.

The Western press has admitted on several occasions that the largest CIA operations after the war of Vietnam have been conducted against the DRA.

The counter-revolutionaries have received nearly [number indistinct] billion dollars military and economic aid from the USA targetted at murder and plunder in Afghanistan. They will receive over 470 million dollars military aid for this purpose during the current fiscal year.

The undeclared war unleashed against Afghanistan, is designed, organised and financed by [word indistinct], a country that feigns itself on the international arena as the defender of human rights.

The US press is reflecting the issue of making use of pilotless planes for dropping US weapons inside Afghanistan for the counter-revolutionary bands.

High Court Stays Execution of Indian Hijackers

BK131102 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A division bench of the Lahore High Court has admitted appeals filed by three Indian nationals and stayed operation of their death sentences. These Indian nationals were sentenced to death by the special court last month on the charges of hijacking an Indian airliner into Pakistan in July 1984. The court also admitted for hearing appeals by seven [Indian nationals] against sentences for hijacking [another Indian plane to Pakistan] in 1981.

Yaqub Khan Discusses Relations, Trade With India

BK130858 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said Pakistan seeks tension-free relations with India to promote an environment of peace and stability in the region which serves the best interest of the region. He was winding up the debate in the Senate tonight on a motion moved by Maulana Samiul Haq to discuss recent trade agreement between Pakistan and India. The motion was dropped out. He said this policy of normalization of relations with India has been consistent and (?steadfast) keeping our sovereignty and honor. The rationale of this policy is further reinforced by the security environment that prevails in the region. He said under no circumstances can Pakistan develop relations with any other country at the cost of its national interest. National interest and national dignity and honor must be and indeed are our paramount consideration and so will they remain.

As for the (?normalization) of trade with India it is the part of the overall policy of building a new pattern of peace and cooperation in South Asia. These and other developments, including improvements in [word indistinct] and expansion of contacts in science and culture testify to a turn for the better in relations with that country. He reassured the House that normalization of relations does not in any way imply any compromise on principles and the government had not sacrificed and will not sacrifice our position. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan reiterated that our stand on the question of Jammu and Kashmir remains firmly rooted in the resolutions of the United Nations and Pakistan is resolved to find a peaceful settlement of this dispute in the spirit of the Simla Agreement. Speaking on the adjournment motion, the federal commerce minister, Mr Mohyuddin Baluch, said the Government of Pakistan favors step by step approach in normalizing its trade relations with India. The government has every intention of protecting its legitimate economic interests in trade with India and will ensure protection to the domestic industry and [words indistinct] in bilateral trade will be avoided.

He said Pakistan agreed to open its private sector import of 42 items which are very important for the [word indistinct] population of Pakistan. These items were already being imported by the private sector that were routed through the Trading Corporation of Pakistan for (? monitoring) purposes. He said no trade agreement was signed during the visit of the Indian finance minister to Pakistan and further dialogue between both the sides will continue. He said the two sides had agreed that they will [passage indistinct].

Iranian Envoy Speaks on Bilateral Relations

GF121405 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 8 Feb 86 pp 1, 7

[Text] Karachi, 7 February (staff reporter) — The Pakistan-Iran joint ministerial council will meet in Tehran on 17 and 18 February and the Pakistan-Iran-Turkey economic cooperation organization will meet in Islamabad from 20 to 26 February. This was stated by Iranian Ambassador to Pakistan Seyyed Mir Mahmud Musavi-Khamene'i in his speech at the Karachi Press Club. He stated that the meetings of the economic cooperation organization would be held to find the ways and means to promote cooperation in various fields. The first meeting of its kind was held in Tehran last year and the second in Ankara.

Concerning the recent visit to Pakistan of the president of Iran, the Iranian ambassador said: The overwhelming reception accorded to President Khamene'i at Lahore and Islamabad indicates the closest of relations between the two Islamic countries. He expressed the hope that cooperation between the two countries in other fields would also be strengthen in the near future, because both the countries have the same history and culture. His excellency the ambassador said: There has been unity in the Islamic countries because of the Islamic revolution in Iran. Western mass media has been doing its best to cause misunderstandings about the Islamic revolution. They succeeded to some extent, but the Islamic countries took no notice of this propaganda. Now we will strengthen our relations with the Islamic and Third World countries. Responding to a question on the visit of the deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union to Tehran last week, the Iranian ambassador said: The Soviet Union is our neighbor. We want to strengthen our relations with our neighbors, but we would prefer to promote our relations with Islamic countries. We still have differences with the Soviet Union on the questions of the Iran-Iraq war and Afghanistan. When asked whether there has been any change in Iranian foreign policy since the visit of the Soviet deputy foreign minister, he said: No, but changes have come in the foreign policies of the Soviet Union and other countries.

Prior to his speech, the chairman of the Karachi Press Club, His Excellency Mahmud 'Ali Asad, had welcomed the Iranian ambassador. He addressed the Press Club on the close relations between Iran and Pakistan.

Iranian Majlis Deputy Interviewed on War

GF121308 Lahore JANG in Urdu 8 Feb 86 pp 1, 7

["Exclusive" interview with Majlis Deputy Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Ghaffari by *JANG* Forum at Lahore — date not given]

[Text] Lahore (*JANG* Forum report) — Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Ghaffari, a member of the Iranian parliament's budget committee and part of the visiting Iranian parliamentary delegation, has stated that the end of Iran-Iraq war is not far away and that God Almighty will create a situation for the justification of the Iranian stance to be appreciated and accepted by everyone. He

stated that Iran has three basic conditions — identification of the aggressor, payment of war reparations, and removal of President Saddam from power. There has been no change in the Iranian stance. Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Ghaffari was giving an exclusive interview to the "*JANG* Forum" with *JANG* representative Ershad Ahmad Haqqani and Qodrattollah Chaudhari. Another member of the Iranian parliamentary delegation, Mehdi Shamlu, the Iranian consul general at Lahore, Mr Mohammad Shamlu, the Iranian consul general at Lahore, Mr Mohammad Hassan Shirazi, and the head of the Iranian cultural center at Lahore were also present at the forum. Translation was done by Mohammad Rizvi.

His Excellency Hadi Ghaffari said: Iran has so far not used its full force and manpower in the war. Iran can fight the war with a huge and very strong force. Hadi Ghaffari went on: At first, the war was imposed on Iran and we did not accept it. Now efforts are being made to impose peace on us and we will not accept it. When asked to be more explicit and explain how the war could come to an early end, he said: There are various ways. One may be for the help which the small and big powers are giving to President Saddam Husayn to be stopped forthwith. This is not a difficult condition. We see these possibilities taking a practical shape even now.

Responding to another question, he said: It is wrong to say that nothing was being done in Iran for the poor. He said: It was true that we had not done much in this respect, but the reason was the war. He added: However, the job of looking after their needs was continuing. Explaining why no land reforms had come about in Iran he said: In Islamic jurisprudence, there were many views on this subject. There were differences on the limit to be imposed on the ownership of property. Therefore we are now looking into this problem.

Explaining why the first president of Iran, Mehdi Bazargan, was declared ineligible to participate in the recent presidential elections, he said: When Bazargan was given the chance to rule, he proved that he was incapable of doing so. Moreover, he could not fulfillll all of the conditions laid down in the Iranian Constitution. He did not agree that if Bazargan had been given the chance, it would have added proof that there was complete democracy in Iran. He said: Even if Bazargan had been allowed to participate in the elections, he would have lost and people would have rejected him. He did not agree that there was a religious dictatorship in Iran.

Responding to a question concerning denationalizing some banks and returning foreign trade to the private sector, he said: Our basic policy is to promote the aims of the revolution. We always take action in light of the Islamic tenets. We do not care what others think of us. He denied that there was no freedom of expression in Iran. He said: There is full freedom of criticism on all aspects of life and the entire proceedings of the legislative assembly are shown on television.

It must be remembered that Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Ghaffari has been a direct participant in the entire struggle for the revolution and some parts of his body have also suffered in the struggle. He represents a Tehran contituency in the Majlis. Mr Mehdi Shamlu was elected from Malayer. He is also a member of the Committee for Foreign Affairs in the Majlis.

Commentary on Gorbachev's 'Unjustified Accusations'
GF121606 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 10 Feb 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Gorbachev's Unjustified Accusations"]

[Text] In a interview with a French newspaper, the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has urged the European countries to bring pressure to bear on the United States and Pakistan on the question of solving the Afghanistan problem. According to his words, the Soviet Union would withdraw its forces from Afghanistan, but the attitude of the United States and Pakistan was an obstacle. He said that instead of resolving the Afghanistan problem both countries want to prolong the matter.

This statement by Mr Gorbachev could be part of his counter-propaganda campaign, which he urgently needs. The Soviet Union is now feeling the brunt of the protests lodged against it, in particular in the General Assembly, where every year resolutions against this country are passed by a huge majority. These resolutions demand the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. It is quite possible that these accusations may not be totally unjustified as far as the United States is concerned, because although they are rivals to each other on the global level, they are compelled to co-exist. However, this charge is totally unjustified as far as Pakistan is concerned. Pakistan has used every forum, whether it be that of the UN General Assembly, the ICO or the Nonaligned Movement, to demand the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan so that the 3 million Afghans who have taken refuge in Pakistan may go back to their homes safely and honorably. Whatever relations and transactions are going on between the Soviet Union and the United States, they are between the two superpowers to impose their hegemony over the world. The United States has supported every Israeli aggressive, hostile, and sabotaging move unconditionally. Since the United States has made a practice of this support, the only party that gains by it is the Soviet Union. This makes one think that perhaps there is an understanding between the Soviet Union and the United States along these lines and that the United States is prepared to let the Soviet Union also have its share of infleunce in the Middle East or in other words, in Islamic countries. This conjecture is strengthened by the recent attitude of the United States in its dealing with the incidence of the civil war in PDRY. The United States did nothing to take advantage of this quandary and the fix in which the Soviet Union had fallen. This has made the Soviet Union tighten its grip again over the country. If there does exist an understanding between the Soviet Union and the United States, it could have been on the question of American policy on Afghanistan, also to allow the Soviet Union to strengthen its grip on Afghanistan while showing to the world that it has been bogged down there.

In any case, as far as Pakistan is concerned, Mr Gorbachev's accusation is totally baseless, because Pakistan is putting no obstacle in the way of the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

Cabinet Session Discusses Contacts in Kuwait
LD121143 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1046 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] At the Cabinet session today international political developments and issues, in particular the recent victories of the combatants of Islam on the battlefronts, were discussed and views exchanged on a report presented by our country's special presidential envoy to Kuwait. According to the report, the amir of Kuwait has stated, in response to a message from our country's president, that Kuwait will not place its resources — its air, land, or naval resources, at the disposal of foreign forces.

A Central News Unit correspondent reports that at the Cabinet session it was announced that during the 10 Days of Dawn the government handed over 22 million square miles of land to 70,000 families to build houses in 220 towns in the country. At today's session the committee dealing with the work practices of government employees also informed the ministers about its report and it was decided that government resolutions regarding assistance to government employees be announced after final results have been determined.

At the end of the session, the prime minister, in an interview with our correspondent, answered questions regarding the recent victories of the combatants of Islam in the "Val-Fajr" operations and the issue of Bubiyan Island. We now draw your attention to it:

[Begin recording] [unidentified correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, [words indistinct] about the recent military operations of the combatants of Islam and the victories they have achieved on the battlefronts, could you give us your views on the future of the war and [words indistinct]?

[Musavi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Those operations to which you refer are among the effective ones. [Words indistinct] our forces have been able to achieve notable successes, including the liberation of Al-Faw and some sections of the most sensitive regions of Iraq through which it has access to the Persian Gulf. As a result of these operations we have reached the vicinity of Khur 'Abdallah which is close to Bubiyan Island. We plan [words indistinct] to be a serious warning to the Saddam regime [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] As you noted, the Khur 'Abdallah is close to Bubiyan Island. (?The Kuwaiti Government might place the island at Iraq's disposal) and that is why an envoy has gone to that country. Could you say what is going to happen and [words indistinct]?

[Musavi] The (?envoy's) report was given to the government. Contacts have been made and discussions held with the highest officials in Kuwait. The Kuwaiti officials have stated that Bubiyan Island and other Kuwaiti resources will not be placed at the disposal of anyone. We are happy about that, and we hope that Kuwait, as the esteemed president said in his speech yesterday, will follow the proper policy [words indistinct]. We are interested in Kuwait's independence and want to have friendly relations with all states in the Persian Gulf. Obviously, Kuwait can help in that matter by its policy and so become immune to the unwanted harm to which a country could naturally become exposed in times of war. [end recording]

Khamene'i Speaks on Phone With Al-Asad, Al-Qadhdhafi
LD122144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
2030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tonight President Khamene'i held a telephone conversation with Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, and explained the developments of the imposed war and the progress of the army of Islam.

Also in a telephone conversation tonight with Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Mr Khamene'i exchanged views on the developments of the imposed war and also on the general situation in the region. In this discussion Mr Khamene'i condemned the presence of the U.S. Fleet in the vicinity of Libyan waters, stressing that the Islamic Republic of Iran considers the Gulf of Sidra to be an integral part of Libya. In this conversation, Mr al-Qadhdhafi congratulated Islam's troops on their victories and wished them success, expressing his full support for the recent operations by the Islamic combatants.

Khemene'i Reviews Revolution Committees, War
LD122232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The special ceremonies marking the 7th anniversary of the formation of the Islamic Revolution Committees, were staged this afternoon in the 7th Tir [28 June] Stadium in Tehran and were attended by the president of the state and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, the minister of the interior, and the deputy commander of the Islamic Revolution Committees. In these ceremonies the deputy commander of the Islamic Revolution Committees presented a report on the activities of this institution during the past 7 years in connection with its operations against counterrevolutionaries and drug smuggling.

Next, Khamene'i, explaining the sensitive role of the Islamic Revolution Committees in preserving the achievements of the Islamic revolution in the fragile conditions of the early days of the revolution, stated:

The Islamic Revolution Committees, during the most difficult and sensitive moments of this revolution, rushed forward to protect it just like a selfless trooper.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, in connection with the latest victories of the combatants in the "Val-Fajr-8" operations and the support given to Saddam by the superpowers, stated: The victory of the combatants in a sector of the battlefronts, has made the reactionaries of the region extremely worried — so much so that they are panicking. The chairman of the Supreme Defense added: Even though Saddam's regime claimed that it is independent and is fighting against Iran without relying on the superpowers, yet, fortunately, the U.S. Defense Department's communique, issued today, negated all the Iraqi regime's propaganda. In this communique, the U.S. Defense Department

expresses regret that due to meteriological disturbances it has not been able to use its satellites to the advantage of Iraq [as heard]. One can judge from this stance that this war has been staged by world arrogance against the Islamic revolution, and you, combatant youth, should know that every one of your blows against the enemy on the battlefronts of war is a blow against the U.S. regime. For this very reason we must strengthen the blows that we are inflicting on the enemy.

The president of the state, referring to the presence of American warships off Libya's shores and to Israel's act of terrorism in hijacking of the Syrian airliner [as heard], he stated: For centuries the chains restricting human beings have become heavier day by day, and the use of force and bullying has been accepted in today's world as a norm. Which small country in the world will be permitted to get its warship near the shores of the United States and tell the U.S. that it has no right to attack this warship? Yet the United States gives itself the right to place its warships along the shores of Libya and forbids Libya to attack them. Or Israel, which gives itself the right to embark on the hijacking of aircrafts and no one in this world protests about these acts. Today the world is in a state of great (?depression) and it is only the people of our country who refuse to be bullied and say that we shall not tolerate the use of force and aggression against ourselves and against any other meek nation in the world.

In conclusion, the president thanked the clergymen and expressed appreciation for their activities in the committees.

Velayati Sends Message to UN on Iraqi CW Use

LD130758 Tehran IRNA in English 0750 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 13, IRNA — Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in a message to the U.N. secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, Thursday deplored inaction of the U.N. vis-a-vis deployment of chemical weapons.

The message, referring to recent deployment of chemical weapons by the Iraqi forces against Iranian combatants, stressed that such an indifferent attitude by the U.N. will ultimately encourage usage and retaliation for such acts at an international level, specially in this region.

Of course, the message noted, the dreadful consequences of such retaliation is clear to all.

The message said that in case the U.N., and especially its secretary general, failed to propose and take an effective action to halt Iraqi chemical attacks, Iran will be forced to adopt a policy other than its previous one.

Referring to the April 25, 1985 statement of the U.N. Security Council condemning deployment of chemical weapons, the message said that only ten months after the statement the Baghdad regime deployed such weapons against Iranian forces.

Renewing its chemical attacks against Islamic combatants of Iran during the past two days, the Iraqi regime has martyred a number of Iranian forces, the message said.

Foreign Ministry Supports Libya Against U.S.

LD121815 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran has issued a statement on the renewed U.S. military exercises in the Gulf of Sidra. The statement, in part, reads: The imperialist United States continues its threats against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and has once again dispatch two aircraft carriers of the 6th Fleet to carry out provocative military exercises off Libyan shores. This is taking place less than 2 weeks after the previous exercises of the 6th Fleet in that region ended. The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns these aggressive provocations by the United States against the fraternal state of Libya and once again proclaims its decisive backing for the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah against these threats.

Musavi Warns 'Reactionary' Arabs on Supporting Iraq

LD121604 Tehran IRNA in English 1532 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Tehran, Feb. 12, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi Wednesday warned those reactionary heads of Arab states not to mingle their fate with that of Saddam Husayn of Iraq.

In response to statements published recently by the reactionary Arab states and the Arab League in protest to the successful Iranian offensive, launched on Sunday, the prime minister said that if they had been really opposed to the war surely they could have voiced their opposition when Saddam Husayn launched his aggression against Iran.

In an interview with reporters at the end of a cabinet meet here Wednesday, the prime minister said that Kuwaiti officials have informed an Iranian delegation, dispatched to Kuwait Tuesday, that Kuwait would not hand over the Bubiyan Island to any forces.

Montazeri Speaks to Guests on Revolution, Region

GF100747 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Excerpts] According to the Central News Unit, foreign guests present for the 10 days of dawn celebrations, along with officers, sergeants, officials of the Air Force politico-ideological department, and the Islamic guidance minister, met his eminence Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday. In welcoming the guests, who have come to the Islamic Republic from various countries and in paying tribute to the initiative and selflessness of the Air Force in their collaboration with the revolution and for joining the ranks of the people, his eminence Ayatollah Montazeri explained the Koranic verse Al-'Asr.

Ayatollah Montazeri stressed that if man has faith in God and reaches near divine stature within himself, he will never experience feelings of being alone or weak. He added: The noble Iranian nation did not have any other objectives in bringing about its sacred revolution, except the freedom to speak the truth, to

tread the right path, to be independent of the East or West, and to administer the country using Islamic and Koranic guidelines. He persevered until he attained success. From the very first day, the great leader of the revolution did not have more than a handful of associates, but because he had faith in the righteousness of his work and his grand mission, and due to his near divinity bestowed on him by God — as was the case with Abraham, who was a nation in himself — the imam also singlehandedly brought about a revolution and later invited the nation to follow the path of the truth and jihad until he was successful. Today this revolution is a model to others. It was a divine spark which was ignited in Qom and swept all over Iran and then spread over and influenced all the innocent and oppresssed areas of the world.

Addressing the foreign guests, he added: Wherever you are, brothers and sisters, you will be a nation unto yourselves if you seek the essence of your nature and cultivate self-confidence. You must endeavor to inform your people of the need to cultivate an Islamic identity and the self-confidence to succeed. You have seen that the likes of Sulayman Khatir, Raghib-Harb, and ('Izzuddin Ghassam) have made a mark in their respective countries' history. Each symbolizes a trend which brought awareness and activity to their own nations.

Speaking on the solid faith and self-confidence of the Lebanese Muslims and those in Afghanistan and other parts of the world, Ayatollah Montazeri asserted: It is this self-confidence that has brought the United States, Italy, France, and Israel in Lebanon, or the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, to their knees, and has forced the United States and its accomplices to flee from Lebanon like a goat. Why should 1 billion Muslims, who are endowed with a wealth of spiritual and material strength, be shackled thus by the East or West merely due to the weak and invertebrate rulers and the servility of some others?

In conclusion, His Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri quoted from various texts and said that according to these traditional sayings, Muslims will finally triumph over Zionism and Jews and the Muslims' original Qiblah [Islamic reference to Jerusalem] will be returned to the Muslims. It seems that the promised day is not too far. In view of the alertness and activity manifested in Muslims of various countries, it seems hopeful that soon the preliminaries of a movement, a general resurgence under the banner of Islam and the Koran, will materialize in the form of a mammoth march of some millions of Arabs, Iranians, Turks, and others toward dear Jerusalem.

Condemning the obsequiousness that has appeared in some Palestinian ranks, he emphasized: I am positive that with their association with King Husayn, the murderer of Palestinians and with Saddam who ignited the imposed war, not an inch of land will be given to the Palestinians. Those who have been subservient to this corrupt policy have only lost their own prestige and have made the Palestinian nation more homeless. What has been taken by force must be retrieved by force.

Deputy Minister Denies Reports of 'Sabotage' Squads

LD130648 Tehran IRNA in English 0640 GMT 13 Feb 86

["Allegations on Iran Having Formed Irregular War Squads Denied" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 13, IRNA — Iran categorically denied reports alleging it of having formed irregular war squads for sabotage activities in countries of the region.

The deputy ershad-e Islami [Islamic Guidance] minister, Sabah Zanganeh, speaking in a press conference here Wednesday referred to such allegations as "pure fabrications" and "plots of imperialism against the Islamic revolution of Iran".

He further told reporters that publication and distribution of such so-called documents was the work of the U.S. central intelligence organization to mar relations of the Arab countries of the region with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Zanganeh added that this was the latest in the chain of the U.S. plots against the Islamic Revolution of Iran since its victory in 1979. This time the U.S. by forging a document has attributed that Iran has formed guerrilla squads in foreign countries for sabotage and terrorist activities.

"By doing so", he added, "the U.S. attempts to hold Iran responsible for such actions". In this fabricated document it has been claimed that a person named Mir Hashem under instructions of Imam Khomeyni and with the help of the Ershad-e Islami Ministry has been training martyrdom-seeking volunteers to be dispatched to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait on sabotage missions.

The reason behind such actions, he stressed, on the one hand was to make countries of the region to distrust the Islamic Republic of Iran, and on the other hand to cover up U.S. terrorist activities.

He further displayed the so-called documents and explained all the reasons for its falsity which he said proved inadequacy of the forgers.

Minister Urges Visitors To Work for Muslim Freedom

LD120953 Tehran IRNA in English 0755 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 12, IRNA — Minister of Ershad-e Eslami [Islamic Guidance] Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohamed Khatami here Tuesday called on the foreign guests who took part in ceremonies marking the 7th anniversary of the Islamic revolution, to warn their people about plots hatched by the superpowers.

The minister, speaking at the conclusion of the ceremonies at Tehran's Laleh Hotel, stressed that it was the responsibility of the guests to encourage their people to strive for the liberation and independence of all Muslims.

Another speaker, Chief Justice Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, referred to recent victories acheived by Iranian combatants in battlefields and expressed hope that it would lead to the final triumph.

In addition to foreign guests the closing ceremony was attended by a group of officials and theologians.

Further Reportage on Libyan Secretary's Visit

Meets With Velayati

LD121322 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpts] The second round of talks of the diplomatic military committees of Iran and Libya was held this morning, chaired by Foreign Minister Velayati and by Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah [Libyan secretary of agrarian reform and land reclamation].

While expressing his pleasure at participating in the 11 February anniversary ceremonies at Azadi Square, Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah said: Relations between Iran and Libya have reached a stage where practical ways of implementing the agreements that we have reached should be given higher priority.

During the session, the two sides reviewed the recent American military exercise in the waters near Libyan shores and also the plot hatched by imperialilst and reactionary countries to lower oil prices. The Libyan side said: We assure you that our forces are fully prepared to stand up to America. Any action by America will be confronted with steadfast defense by the Libyan people.

While expressing pleasure at the progress made in the relations between the two countries, Velayati said: The two sides should use all their power to implement the agreements reached, and coordinate their facilities to confront enemies and deal with oil and other issues.

Received by Musavi

LD122023 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 12 IRNA — Libya's special envoy and member of the Revolution Command Council Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah met and conferred with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Wednesday.

During the meeting 'Umar Durdah said that Iran's ongoing military move would endanger the imperialists interests in the region.

Durdah (?stressed) on [words indistinct] struggle against the U.S. and its allies in the world. He further reiterated Libya's support for the Islamic Republic's righteous stances.

Prime Minister Musavi said the Iranian nation has all along supported the country's officials in upholding the 7-year-old Islamic revolution. He termed this commitment as a 'powerful point' of the revolution.

Musavi also said that the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) has so far played a significant role in favor of Iran in the war.

'Umar Durdah heading a political-military delegation arrived here Monday.

Al-Qadhdhafi's Envoys Visit 'Val-Fajr' Camp Site

LD122128 Tehran IRNA in English 2057 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 13, IRNA — Envoys of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Tehran, met and conferred with Minister of Revolutionary Guards Corps M. Rafiq Dust today in a camp by the Val-Fajr-8 war operation site.

Libyan envoys also were acquainted with the latest victories of the Islamic combatants.

They supported the Iranian position in her just struggle against aggressive regime of Iraq.

Envoy Conveys Invitation for Musavi To Visit Algeria

LD091730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] The Algerian ambassador to Iran met and conferred with the prime minister's political deputy this morning.

During the meeting, while stressing the expansion of relations between the two brother Muslim countries and political cooperation in the international and economic fields, the Algerian ambassador invited Prime Minister Musavi to visit Algeria on behalf of his country's prime minister.

Kuwaiti Amir, Foreign Minister Receive Lavasani

LD121326 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Lavasani, the special envoy of our country's president met the amir of Kuwait yesterday afternoon immediately after his arrival in that country.

During the meeting a message from President Khamene'i was presented to the amir of Kuwait.

Lavasani also met and conferred with the Kuwait foreign minister.

Deputy Minister, Bangladesh's Chowdhury Discuss War

LD122033 Tehran IRNA in English 1850 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 12, IRNA — Deputy Minister of Ershad Islami (Islamic Guidance) Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi Lari met and conferred in Dhaka Wednesday with Bangladeshi Minister of Foreign Affairs Humayun Rashid Chowdhury.

In the meeting, Rashid Chowdhury emphasised on the need to strengthen and expand relations between the two countries.

The Bangladeshi minister also remarked that Bangladesh believes Saddam started the war against Iran which it was not

incapable of winning and brought him no benefit.

Chowdhury further said that the Islamic Republic's position is correct and that other countres now accept this fact.

Hoj. Lari said that Saddam has repeatedly demonstrated his regime's contempt for international law, by routinely violating them.

The minister furthermore said that the Iraqi ruler has no respect for Islamic law either and that the Iranian nation has absolutely no confidence in him.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, he added, has no covetous eyes on the Iraqi soil or any other country.

On the ongoing visit of Bangladesh's minister of trade to Iran, Hoj. Lari expressed hope that once the Bangladeshi parliamentary assembly has been formed would travel to Iran to exchange views with Islamic Republic Majlis deputies. [Sentence as received]

Local Oil Experts Repair Khuzestan Drilling Rig

LD121328 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Petroleum Ministry has announced that the Khuzestan oil drilling rig No 42 which underwent repair work became operational yesterday at a ceremony attended by members of the board of directors of the National Oil Company. This is one of several drilling rigs that has been put to work by the committed workers and experts of the Petroleum Ministry's National Drilling Company since the victory of the revolution and the closing down of foreign drilling companies in Iran. This is yet another effective step toward breaking the international monopoly of drilling operations which is dominated by America and France.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Al-Faw Situation Updated

LD121150 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Communique No 9 issued by the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters 12 February]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. By the dawn and the 10 nights. O brave ummah of Islam, o Muslim nation of Iran, your million-strong presence on the scene and the self-sacrifices of your brave offspring on the fronts have created victories and amazed the people of the world and military analysts. Yesterday and today, struggling to resist the triumphant attacks of the combatants of Islam, the Ba'thist enemy attempted heavy counteroffensives, which were repelled. During these operations, 50 defeated Ba'thist troops were captured.

Enemy aerial activities were also foiled today, with four more enemy planes being shot down, bringing the total since the start of the "Val-Fajr-8" operation to 14. Meanwhile, our fast-flying Air Force pilots and Army aviation eagles attacked enemy positions and armored units, dealing effective blows to the enemy. They all returned safely to their bases.

O Muslim and heroic nation of Iran. Thanks to the triumphant "Val-Fajr-8" operation and the deployment of the combatants of Islam in the Al-Faw sector and several kilometers along its shores, Khawr 'Abdallah, which had been Iraq's only communication route to the Persian Gulf, came under the control of the forces of Islam, and the remnants of the enemy's shattered navy in Umm Qasr was surrounded. Our cutting of the enemy's communications with the Persian Gulf will no doubt have important political and economic effects in the region, and will keep the countries in the region safe from the Ba'thist Aflakists. Islamic Iran is now in a position to observe military moves in the Persian Gulf, and will not allow the aggressor Iraq to reach Persian Gulf waters. God willing, with the efforts of the combatants of Islam, aerial activity by the Ba'thists in the Persian Gulf will be prevented.

O faithful and on-the-scene nation of Iran, your brave offspring are guarding the liberated lands, while the cursed Iraqi regime has brought Al-Faw and its oil installations — which belong to the Iraqi nation — under artillery and aerial bombardment to cover up its crimes in Abadan, Khorramshahr and Hoveyzeh. However, by shooting down enemy aircraft and silencing enemy artillery, the Islamic Republic of Iran is trying to preserve the remains of this great capital for the people of Iraq.

So far, 120 tanks and personnel carriers, 150 assorted enemy vehicles, 40 assorted antiaircraft guns, and 20 assorted engineering and road construction vehicles have been captured by the forces of Islam.

With God's help, victory is nigh.

[signed] Khatam al-Anbiya' headquarters, the center of the joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

Iraq Drops Chemical Bombs

LD121724 Tehran IRNA in English 1706 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 12 IRNA — Iraqi war planes dropped chemical bombs on Al-Fajr-8 operational region Wednesday.

According to IRNA correspondent in the region as a result of this inhuman act which is against all international conventions several combatants were injured.

Since the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war the Iraqi forces have repeatedly deployed chemical weapons against Iranians in the battlefronts.

To repel Iran's Muslim combatants in Badr operations alone, the Iraqis fired 300-plus chemical bullets and U.S. chemical bullets and another 120 chemically-fed rockets each bearing 40 litres of chemical solution.

Iran's anti-chemical units are treating the wounded combatants.

Iraqi 26th Division HQ Captured

LD121748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Communique No 10 of the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters of the joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, was issued tonight, containing the following:

O, Islamic ummah and martyr-nurturing people of Iran: Your warrior children are continuing to create epics and are continuing their advance. Today in pursuit of "Val-Fajr-8" the mighty Islamic combatants succeeded while advancing along the strategic Al-Faw-Umm Qasr highway, in liberating another section of enemy territory, in capturing the headquarters of the 26th Division of Iraq, and in liberating another section of the artificial salt lake. Today the Ba'thist enemy embarked on numerous counteroffensives, which were all repelled through the courage of the mightly Islamic combatants, especially of the fast-flying eagles of the army aviation.

In pursuit of the operations by the victoricus Islamic combatants today and the repulsion of enemy counterattacks the following results have been achieved: the liberation of another 50 km of enemy territory in the Al-Faw region; the capture of 20 antiaircraft guns and 10 heavy vehicles and radar, and complex missile equipment on site No 3 of the Al-Faw region; the total destruction of 7 People's Army units; the total destruction of one mechanized battalion; the 65-percent destruction of two infantry battalions, and the 40-percent destruction of a tank battalion; the capture of tank farms and oil installations to the north and west of Al-Faw, which contain 60 huge oil reserves and pipelines carrying oil to (Ra's al-Bisha) and loading terminals.

Also today the heroic Air Force of Iran in several sorties bombarded the concentration centers of enemy forces, and during three sorties enemy planes mistakenly targeted Iraqi forces and inflicted heavy casualties on Iraqi forces. The fast fliers of the Air Force and the air defense forces downed 4 more enemy aircraft, and with these the number of enemy aircraft downed from the start of "Val-Fajr-8" to date now totals 18. The feeble and defeated enemy, in order to compensate for its defeat and to boost the morale of the Ba'thist forces resorted to the use of chemical bombs, and the chemical warfare defense units immediately began to act to neutralize the effects.

Foreign Reporters To Be Invited

LD130722 Tehran IRNA in English 0715 GMT 13 Feb 86

["Ten Martyred, Many Injured in Iraqi Chemical Bombings" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ, Feb. 13, IRNA — At least ten Iranian combatants have been martyred and many others injured in extensive Iraqi use of chemical weapons in the Val Fajr-8 operation region over the past two days.

A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters [WIH] told IRNA here Thursday that despite Iraqi denial, many Iranian forces have fallen victims to repeated enemy use of internationally banned chemical weapons after operation Val Fajr-8 was launched by Iran's Islamic combatants Sunday night.

He said some of the injured Iranians had been treated outpatiently, some others hospitalized and some despatched to Tehran for further treatment.

The WIH spokesman said Iran would invite foreign reporters to visit chemically wounded Iranian combatants at one of the Tehran hospitals soon in order for them to personally witness the evidence of the latest Iraqi war crime.

He further stated that the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic has (?also) called on the U.N. secretary general to [word indistinct] delegation to Iran to file a report on this open Iraqi breach of international conventions. The delegation has also been asked to visit chemically wounded Iranians, he said.

The spokesman said this desperate Iraqi move comes following Baghdad's bitter defeat in operation Val Fajr-8 and its loss of the Al-Faw port city but that it would in no way harm the determination of Iran's Islamic combatants.

Chemical Casualties Revealed

LD130824 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ, Feb. 13, IRNA — Casualties of the recent Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons has reached 17, while unconfirmed reports say that 1500 other Islamic combatants have been injured.

Latest reports from Val-Fajr-8 operational theater indicate that the Iraqi regime in the past two days has been continuously shelling the area and attacking it with chemical weapons consisting of mustard and nerve gases and also cyanide derivatives.

The attacks have been carried out mainly over palm groves in the liberated port city of Al-Faw and on Al-Faw-Basra road as well as western bank of Arvand River.

Those afflicted are suffering from respiratory malfunctioning, sore eyes and skin burns. A number of them have been transferred to Ahvaz hospital and several others to Tehran.

Iraq CW Bombs Land on Own Troops

LD130844 Tehran IRNA in English 0834 GMT 13 Feb 86

["Iraq Renews Extensive Use of Chemical Weapons on Al-Faw-Basra Road — IRNA headline]

[Text] Al-Faw, Feb. 13, IRNA — Iran's Islamic combatants are reportedly crushing enemy positions in the Val Fajr-8 operation region.

The Iraqi troops who are unable to resist Iran's Muslim fighters have resorted to intensive use of international banned chemical

weapons resulting in the wounding of a large group of Iran's Islamic combatants as well as a number of Iraqi forces in the region.

A military commander of the Val Fajr-8 operation who told this to IRNA, added that due to the ongoing heavy fighting and the closeness of the two sides positions, Iraqi planes have also dropped bombs on part of Iraqi troops positions.

The commander said that he hoped after achieving their objectives in the region of Al-Faw-Basra road, the Iranian combatants could take captive some of the chemically wounded Iraqi forces and treat them with their facilities prepared for this purpose behind the war fronts.

He said the Islamic Republic has equipped itself with extensive facilities to treat chemically injured combatants due to Iraq's repeated use of these weapons in the past.

Spokesman Denies Iran Use of CW
LD131043 Tehran IRNA in English 1031 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ., Feb. 13, IRNA — A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters Thursday, strongly denied an Iraqi claim that Iranian forces had used chemical weapons in their latest operation, Val Fajr-8.

The spokesman told IRNA that the Islamic Republic has always insisted on observing of international conventions.

The Iraqi regime has not hesitated committing any crime in the past, either against innocent civilians or in the battlefields, the spokesman said adding that the Baghdad regime has repeatedly deployed chemical weapons.

He noted that reports of the U.N. and doctors treating the victims of the Iraqi chemical attacks both in Iran and abroad are indicative of the extensive Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons against Islamic combatants of Iran which were internationally condemned.

In the course of the Val Fajr-8 offensive, the Iraqi regime deployed chemical weapons against Iranian forces on Wednesday and Thursday [12-13 February], martyring and injuring a large number of them, the spokesman added.

Due to the fierceness of the fighting, closeness of the positions of the two sides and carelessness of the Iraqi pilots, a number of the chemical bombs have been dropped on Iraqi forces, injuring a number of them.

Therefore, the spokesman stressed, to attribute the deployment of chemical weapons to Iranian forces was "a mere lie" and is strongly denied.

Iran has so far proved its observance of international regulations and would not infringe them, the spokesman said, adding that by resorting to such allegations the Iraqi regime intended to find an excuse to intensify its inhumane acts in deploying various kinds of chemical weapons against Iranian forces and possibly against civilian people.

"We warn all international organizations and the world public opinion about these criminal and inhumane acts," the spokesman said.

The Iranian combatants are fully determined to defend the Islamic revolution of Iran and Iranian people and will no doubt give an appropriate answer to any crime committed by the Iraqi regime, the spokesman stressed.

Another Iraqi Aircraft Downed
LD130936 Tehran IRNA in English 0918 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Al-Faw, Feb. 13, IRNA — Another Iraqi warplane was downed by the fire of the anti-aircraft artillery fire and fighter planes of the Islamic Republic in the Val-Fajr-8 operational theater Thursday morning [13 February].

This is the 19th warplane downed by the Islamic Forces of Iran since Iran's thrust into Iraq Sunday night.

2 Aircraft, 1 Helicopter Downed
LD131056 Tehran IRNA in English 1051 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Al-Faw, Feb. 13, IRNA — With the downing of another two Iraqi warplanes in the Val-Fajr-8 operational theater Thursday, the number of Iraqi warplanes downed since the start of the offensive last Sunday, amounted to 21.

Meanwhile, an Iraqi helicopter gunship was also downed by the Islamic combatants of Iran Thursday bringing the number of downed Iraqi helicopters during the offensive to two.

The Iraqi aircraft were downed by the fire of heavy anti-aircraft artillery and fighter planes of the Islamic combatants of Iran in the operational theater.

Newsmen Invited To Visit Al-Faw
LD131007 Tehran IRNA in English 0957 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 13, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters Thursday invited foreign reporters specially journalists in Islamic countries to travel to Iran to report and film the liberated Iraqi port city of Al-Faw.

The Iraqi regime has denied its defeat in Iran's new offensive and has so far refused to acknowledge liberation of its city by the Islamic combatants.

The Iranian forces in a warning to the Baghdad regime and its reactionary and oppressor supporters attacked Iraqi positions in the strategic port city of Al-Faw and caught the whole world and enemies of the Islamic revolution of Iran by surprise, the headquarters said.

Iraq Shells Abadan

LD121759 Tehran IRNA in English 1747 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb 12, IRNA — The city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was bombarded and shelled by Iraqi war planes and artillery fire Tuesday as a result of which 30 houses were destroyed, according to a communique published by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran here Wednesday.

In its Communique Number 2379, the command says that at least 20 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and [number indistinct] gun emplacements and observation posts of the enemy forcre destroyed in the western fronts Tuesday as their positions were shelled by Iranian forces.

The Joint Staff communique says that Iranian surface-to-air fire repulsed Iraqi warplanes violating the airspace of Sumar, Islamabad and Kanjan-Cham Tuesday.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions Tuesday set fire to parts of their positions and demolished several light and heavy vehicles of Iraqi forces.

Iraqi Troops Urged To Surrender

GF130850 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 0805 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Unscheduled announcement broadcast in Arabic]

[Text] Attention, attention, attention: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. O Iraqi soldiers, Iraqi officers, Iraqis of different ranks. Think a little of your fate. There lie the bodies of your colleagues covering the ground of the battle which the heroic Islamic combatants are fighting with total courage and ability. They have been felled by the fierce Islamic fire. Many of them have been identified. They are: Major Ahmad, director of administrative affairs; Captain Hannun from the 111th Brigade; Captain Ibrahim, commander of a regiment of the 111th Brigade; the commander of a commando company belonging to the 111th Brigade; and Lieutenant Colonel Karim, commander of the 2d regiment of the 111th Brigade.

O Iraqi soldiers and officers. The Islamic Republic of Iran, out of concern for you and the future of your families, sons, and children, sincerely calls on you to surrender to the Islamic Army which will receive you as dear and honored guests. In this way, you will secure your lives in this world and in the hereafter.

Have you not learned a lesson from the thousands of those among you who have been killed, wounded, or taken prisoner during the heroic battles fought by the heroes of the Islamic Republic? Hence, all you have to do is spare your blood and rebel against the Ba'thists. Know that the tyrant Saddam will certainly perish and that victory will come to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Hence, hasten to surrender and to salvation in this world and in the hereafter.

Forces Capable of New Offensive

LD131110 Tehran IRNA in English 1104 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 13, IRNA — A high-ranking official of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) declared that the Islamic forces were able to start a new offensive against Iraq from any border point and inflict irrepairable damages.

The head of the Central Headquarters of IRGC, 'Ali Reza Afshar, speaking in a press conference here Wednesday said that launching the attack at a time while Karbala caravans are still being formed and dispatched to war fronts, proved that those posted in battle zones were not the only forces that Iran could use. The power of Iran, he told reporters, far exceeds what Iran's enemies perceive.

On the formation of Al-Quds Reserve Forces, he said that the move had made the neighbouring countries to reconsider their stance and realise that there is no hope for survival of Saddam.

Elaborating more on Al-Quds Reserve Forces, Afshar said that only 467 armies took part in maneuvers of the Ten-Day-Dawn ceremonies. These forces are to support the Iranian units in war fronts.

Volunteers Called On To Report

LD121203 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Following the recent victories of the forces of Islam and the powerful exercises of the Jerusalem reserve divisions, the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has asked the volunteers of those divisions to refer to Guards Corps centers in various provinces to take part in the dispatch of the first Val-Fajr division in every province, to join the self-sacrificing combatants on the fronts.

6 Feb Explosions at Baghdad Garrison Noted

LD111616 Tehran IRNA in English 1524 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 11, IRNA — A series of explosions rocked Al-Rashid garrison in Iraq last Thursday [6 February] following recent protests of the Iraqi Muslim soldiers against the present ruling regime in Iraq. Reliable sources, reporting the incident, said that the explosions took place around Al-Rashid garrison in the suburbs of Baghdad, and have caused deep concern among Iraqi officials. The sources added that a number of military personnel of the garrison have been arrested in connection with the explosion. Their fate is so far unknown.

Tehran Comments on 'Val-Fajr-8' Operations

GF122001 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States is observing the results of the "Val-Fajr-8" operations with great concern. It finds itself, in one way

or another, concerned with the new developments in the arena of the battles. The "Val-Fajr" operations have proven that the Islamic forces are able to cross any fortified point inside the Iraqi territories. The Islamic heroes' assault of the fortifications in the western bank of Shatt al-'Arab, reaffirmed once again the flexibility of the military strength of the Islamic army against the defense tactics used by Saddam's regime to prevent the Islamic forces from crossing the Iraqi borders. The arrogance has relied heavily on these defence tactics believing in the impossibility of an Iranian attack on any border point.

Our Islamic forces chose the most difficult areas to cross in the "Val-Fajr-8" operations to prove to Saddam and his masters that our forces are able to reach the aggressors from any point regardless of how fortified or unapproachable they are. This is the most serious warning. Meanwhile, the results of the "Val-Fajr" operations shook the balance of power in this sensitive region of the Persian Gulf, since the United States was greatly depending on the ability of the Ba'thist regime to find a balance in power which would end the effects of the Islamic forces' military superiority.

The strategy of the arrogance in this war was based on supporting the Iraqi regime's war machine so that it can defend itself against the superiority of our brave forces. However, the "Val-Fajr-8" operations end the concept of the balance and reaffirm once again the superiority of the Islamic forces over the aggressors.

The problem faced by the United States in these operations does not only concern the aggressive war and its direct threats to the Iraqi regime, but they may have grave dimensions and bear results against the U.S. strategy not only in the Gulf region, but also in the Islamic world as a whole. This is what made the official spokesman of the U.S. State Department declare his country's fears about the results of these operations and urge the Islamic Republic to agree to a cease-fire and return to its previous positions.

The U.S. spokesman tried to relate his country's interests to the widening circle of the war which may cover other Gulf areas. Through this statement, the United States tried once again to induce imaginary fears into the Gulf countries and make them undertake maximum mobilization to confront the consequent war developments. This invitation comes in concomitance with the assurances made by Seyyed Khamene'i, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to the Gulf countries — particularly the State of Kuwait, which was visited yesterday by an envoy carrying a message from the president of the Republic to this effect. This position did not leave room for the flagrant U.S. hypocricy to call on the Gulf countries to be in a state of alert. This is the policy adopted by the United States since the eruption of the war, to rob the resources of this region and to convert it into an arsenal of U.S. weapons.

The other goals behind the U.S. media's stress on the expansion of war in the Persian Gulf region is to make world public opinion believe that the United States is not worried about the fate of Saddam on the fate of Saddam or the fate of his regime. It is a fact that the "Val-Fajr-8" operations are a practical and firm warning which confirms the determination of the Islamic forces to topple the head of crime in Baghdad if his allies do not put him on trial. These battles will drive the nation toward the limit of challenge and victory. These battles will also strengthen Islamic revolutionaries everywhere. This is what the United States fears, and what it fears to announce. The "Val-Fajr-8" operations brought the good omen of victory to all of the Islamic powers that are involved in a merciless war against U.S. hegemony of the Islamic world.

Commentary on Implications of Al-Faw 'Liberation'

GF130928 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research Group: "The Liberation of Al-Faw Is a Stern Warning to the Enemy"]

[Text] As you have heard, the able Islamic combatants have taken control of (Hawr al-'Abdallah) after the liberation of the important and strategic city of Al-Faw in Iraq. The port of Al-Faw, which is Iraq's only maritime link with the Persian Gulf other than Basra, was occupied by the Islamic combatants in a lightning operation at 2200 on Sunday night.

From the military point of view, the occupation of Al-Faw was an unexpected move which — due to its immense military and defense possibilities and the extensive measures taken by the Ba'thist party's forces to defend this port — has been widely reported in the international media. It is for this reason that the Iraqis issued communiques in the initial stages of the defeat. Through lies and fabrications, they tried in vain to divert public opinion, internally and externally, from the facts and to bolster the morale of their residual forces. However, this effort proved impotent, and following the occupation of 'Umm al-Rasa Island west of Khorramshahr, which was in fact the first step toward the conquest of Al-Faw port, Saddam was forced to admit the fact by announcing that the Iranian forces have attacked Iraq's 7th Division forces in some areas. This cowardly admission, which was far removed from the truth, came at a time when the valiant forces of Islam were advancing toward Al-Faw after the conquest of 'Umm al-Rasa and had dispersed the strong phalanxes of the Zionist Iraqi regime's defenses in a commendable and almost incredible manner in this region and had occupied the Al-Faw region.

With the occupation of this region, which resulted in the shattering of Iraq's defenses and the killing of more than 5,000 Ba'thist forces and the capturing of 1,200 Iraqis, the tottering Iraqi regime once again has been forced to face the bitter truth, at least in part, and to announce that Iranians have gained something of a foothold in Al-Faw region. In any case, the occupation of Al-Faw — regardless of the fact that once again it has proved the strength of the Islamic combatants in traversing the most difficult enemy terrain — has provided an appropriate upper hand for the Islamic forces.

Western news agencies, which are not prone to accepting simple facts, have been forced to openly acknowledge the dimensions of the importance of the victory of the Islamic combatants and to refer to the effects of this attack on the morale of the defeated Iraqi forces. In its news analysis, BBC said that Iran's latest attack was concentrated in the southern sectors of the front, was

a source of apprehension for the Iraqi leaders, and could have a deleterious effect on the Iraqi forces' morale. Similar remarks, although worded differently, have been uttered by Iraqi POW's.

Despite the wide scale of the Islamic forces' victory, to quote the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i, in a speech at the grand and unforgettable ceremonies of 11 February before millions of the Hezbollahi ummah of Tehran: "These operations were in practice a warning to the enemy and a step in the its chastisement which was carried out by a section of the Iranian Armed Forces." The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council spoke briefly in his address about the timing of the recent operations and their objectives. He stressed the fact that all nations, in particular the Arab states, should know that we do not covet Iraqi soil. We only wish to punish with our own hands the aggression and obduracy of Saddam's regime whose mischief-mongering has been ignored by the world. The president's utterances are significant from the point of view that part of the operations by the Islamic combatants have taken place in the vicinity of Kuwait's borders. Hence the states in the region should be informed of the objectives of the operations and warned against the Iraqi aggressor regime's propaganda of giving an Arab-Persian bias to the conflict in the region. In this regard, immediately after the commencement of the recent operations, a special emissary was sent by our president to Kuwait so that Iran's stance vis-a-vis its continuation of its policy of good-neighborliness with the states in the region could be explained to the Kuwaiti authorities.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council alluded to the shaky position of Saddam in light of the present war situation, warned against any assistance to Saddam by Kuwait, especially regarding the use of Kuwait's Bubiyan Island, and emphasized that despite our friendly relations with Kuwait, the Iranian forces will actively intervene to defend their stance if necessary. It is natural that Kuwait, as well as other neighboring littoral states in the Persian Gulf, should comprehend the Islamic Republic of Iran's intentions and the patient attitude of our nation against the mischief-mongering aggressor Saddam and his associates. This is in light of the historical treachery by imperialism through the fascist hands of Iraq during the past 5 years in the form of a destructive war against our oppressed people, so that they do not fall prey to the propagandistic atmosphere whipped up by the enemy.

We have reaffirmed our foreign policy of good-neighborliness in practice in the area and have exercised restraint and patience which will naturally continue in the future on the basis of Islamic and regional considerations and with the reciprocity of our neighbors. A new chapter sooner or later will be opened in the history of the region which will emerge from the present sensitive and historical circumstances. We will see how and on the basis of what criteria our neighbors will base their decisions to safeguard peace and security in the area. Whatever their modus operandi might be, it should not be without taking into account the firm determination of the heroic nation which was proved by its mammoth marches 2 days ago in the form of a seething tidal wave of greatness and grandeur on the streets of Tehran and in other cities of Iran. Once more the people have displayed their invincible strength to resist all plots and enemies of the Islamic revolution on the international level. Blessings on those who have attained the path of truth and are pursuing it!

Opposition Paper on Officials' Contacts With KGB

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[Text] During the visit to Tehran of the first deputy in the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a foreign news publication wrote on the relations between Moscow and Tehran and said: Although there is nothing encouraging in relations between Tehran and Moscow, in other words between the Soviet Union and the Islamic Republic, the Soviet espionage and information organization (KGB) has maintained its relations with Mohammad Reyshahri', the minister of information and security of the Islamic Republic; Kho'iniha, prosecutor general of the Islamic Republic; and Fadhlollah Mohallati. These are the people who had completed their training in East Europe and in the Palestinian camps.

Foreign news reports with documentary proof from informed sources in the West say that Fadhalollah Mohallati, who is now in charge of the ideological section of the Guards Corps, along with Mohammed Musavi Kho'iniha and Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri, who had been in training with the Soviet intelligence organization in the past, now are in charge of the terrorist activities of the Islamic Republic.